

25 WOMEN SAVED FROM DROWNING WHEN PIER BROKE

Plunged Into Bay With Ten Children, but Rescuers Worked Quickly.

The breaking of a crowded pier at Bay Shore, L. I., yesterday about twilight plunged twenty-five women and at least ten small children into the water of Great South Bay at a place where the water was from eight to ten feet.

Swift rescue work by those upon the pier and by young men cruising nearby in motor boats, resulted in the escape of all the women and children from drowning.

The pier juts out from Benjamin's pavilion and is made of planks laid on wooden piles. It has done service for several years, but was regarded as perfectly safe and was nightly used by the children.

Suddenly there was a rending and splitting of the planks in the center of the pier. It was instantly followed by the screams of fright of the women and children, who found themselves flung into the deep water.

Those left on the broken pier—women as well as men—acted with admirable presence of mind. They knelt or stretched flat on the boardwalk, which is only a few feet above the surface of the water, and first of all grabbed for the little children.

Meanwhile a dozen or more motor boats skimmed swiftly toward the scene of the accident. Life preservers were thrown overboard and used to advantage and several of the young men, regardless of flannel trousers and fancy summer shirts, dove to the rescue of those struggling in the water.

The women were brought out with all their pretty white summer finery dripping, and the little children wailed hysterically. But when count had been made it was found that all were safe.

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